

Saint Leo University Student Achievement Outcomes

As a student-centered teaching university, Saint Leo University is committed to ensuring that students reach their academic and professional goals. In accordance with this mission, Saint Leo measures student achievement based on academic progress, completions, and career-related success.

Retention Rate

IPEDS Retention Rate: Saint Leo University uses the IPEDS fall-to-fall retention rate for first-time bachelor's degree-seeking students.

Saint Leo University's goal is to attain a 1-percentage point increase, year-over-year, over the 2021 benchmark, but no less than the 2021 cohort rate.

Threshold: 54%

2021 cohort rate (benchmark): 54%

Goal by 2028: 59%

2022 cohort rate: 57.7%

Retention of First-time Bachelor's Degree-Seeking Students				
2018 Cohort	2019 Cohort	2020 Cohort	2021 Cohort (benchmark)	2022 Cohort
69%	64%	57%	54%	57.7%

Graduation Rates

IPEDS Graduation Rate: Saint Leo University uses the IPEDS graduation rate for full-time, first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students within 150% of normal time to program completion.

Saint Leo University's goal is to attain a 1-percentage point increase, year-over-year, over the 2015 IPEDS cohort benchmark. Saint Leo University's threshold is to maintain a minimum 45% graduation rate, which is the most recent SACSCOC Completion Indicator.*

Threshold: 45%

2015 IPEDS Cohort Rate (benchmark): 46%

Goal by 2028: 51%

2017 IPEDS Cohort Rate: 49%

Graduation Rates		
Entering 2015 Cohort (benchmark)	Entering 2016 Cohort	Entering 2017 Cohort
46%	49%	49%

Divisional Graduation Rates: Internally benchmarked rate for identified Saint Leo student divisions

The target is for a 1 percentage point increase, year-over-year, over the benchmark, but no less than the benchmark.

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Division	Entering 2015 (benchmark)	Entering 2016	Entering 2017
<i>Undergraduate</i>			
University Campus	48%	50%	53%
Online	18%	20%	21%
	Entering 2018	Entering 2019	Entering 2020
<i>Graduate (combined)</i>	54%	53%	60%

* SACSCOC requires that institutions identify a student completion indicator. Saint Leo University has chosen the IPEDS Traditional Overall Graduation Rate, which captures completion data for first-time degree/certificate-seeking undergraduate students within 150% of normal time to program completion.

Course Completion

Saint Leo monitors course completion as a measure of student progress toward degree completion. Saint Leo University considers successful undergraduate course completion to be a “C” or better; for graduate courses, a B- represents successful completion. The institution considers year-over-year consistency important in this measure, and expects outcomes to fluctuate no more than -1/+1 percentage point, but be no less than the median of the previous five years.

Division	Target	Five-year Median	2024 Completion Rate
<i>Undergraduate</i>			
University Campus	80%-82%	81%	80%
Online	76%-78%	75%	78%
<i>Graduate</i>			
University Campus	90%-92%	90%	91%
Online	93%-95%	93%	94%

Career Outcomes

Saint Leo University measures career-related success both during enrollment and upon graduation. Sources used to monitor career-related achievements include 1) University Explorations (general education) Course Completion, 2) Senior Exit Survey University Explorations Career-related Items, and 3) Annual Program Performance Report (APPR): Florida Department of Education Data.

University Explorations Course Completion

Saint Leo monitors course completion in its University Explorations general education courses as a measure of student progress toward degree completion. Saint Leo University considers successful course completion to be a “C” or better. The institution considers year-over-year consistency important in this measure, and expects outcomes to fluctuate no more than -1/+1 percentage point, but be no less than the median of the previous five years.

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Division	Target	Five-year Median	2024 Completion Rate
<i>Undergraduate</i>			
University Campus	72%-74%	75%	73%
Online	66%-68%	66%	68%

University Explorations Senior Exit Survey Career-Related Items

Several items on the Senior Exit Survey are used to evaluate student achievement using indirect assessment methods. The target is a score, overall and for each individual item, of at or above 3.0 on a 4-point Likert Scale.

Division	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS (ON-GROUND)	3.34	3.54	3.43	3.39	3.35
I used critical thinking skills.	3.28	3.57	3.4	3.29	3.29
I used quantitative skills.	3.09	3.43	3.29	3.25	3.10
I demonstrated a knowledge of diverse populations, differing beliefs systems, values, and norms.	3.39	3.57	3.38	3.49	3.54
I was able to communicate clearly and effectively using multiple types of media.	3.51	3.63	3.59	3.44	3.46
I developed a decision-making process based on critical thinking and core values.	3.43	3.51	3.49	3.46	3.38
ONLINE	3.72	3.73	3.76	3.79	3.75
I used critical thinking skills.	3.76	3.76	3.83	3.83	3.81
I used quantitative skills.	3.66	3.66	3.72	3.76	3.69
I demonstrated a knowledge of diverse populations, differing beliefs systems, values, and norms.	3.78	3.78	3.78	3.79	3.85
I was able to communicate clearly and effectively using multiple types of media.	3.67	3.70	3.73	3.75	3.77
I developed a decision-making process based on critical thinking and core values.	3.74	3.77	3.76	3.8	3.63

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Education Program Annual Program Performance Report (APPR) Outcomes

The Annual Program Performance Report (APPR) is an annual public report card issued by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) on each state-approved teacher preparation program, and measures the effectiveness of a program based on the performance of program completers. APPR overall scores are calculated and awarded by the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) each year, and are based on outcome-based performance categories, including candidate employment rate after graduation; retention in employment in Florida public schools 5 years after graduation; graduates' student performance on state assessments; graduates' student achievement on state assessments by subgroup; and graduates' annual teacher the evaluation process.

The threshold of acceptability is set at 2.5 by the Florida Department of Education. However, Saint Leo's target is 2.8, as established by the institution's education department faculty.

PROGRAM	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Elementary Education	3.2	2.8	3.4	3.4	3.0	3.0	3.0
Exceptional Student Education	3.0	2.7	3.7	4.0	3.0	4.0	4.0
Middle Grades English	2.6	3.8	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.8	3.8
Middle Grades Social Science	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.7	N/A	3.0	3.0
Reading	3.4	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.8	3.0	3.0